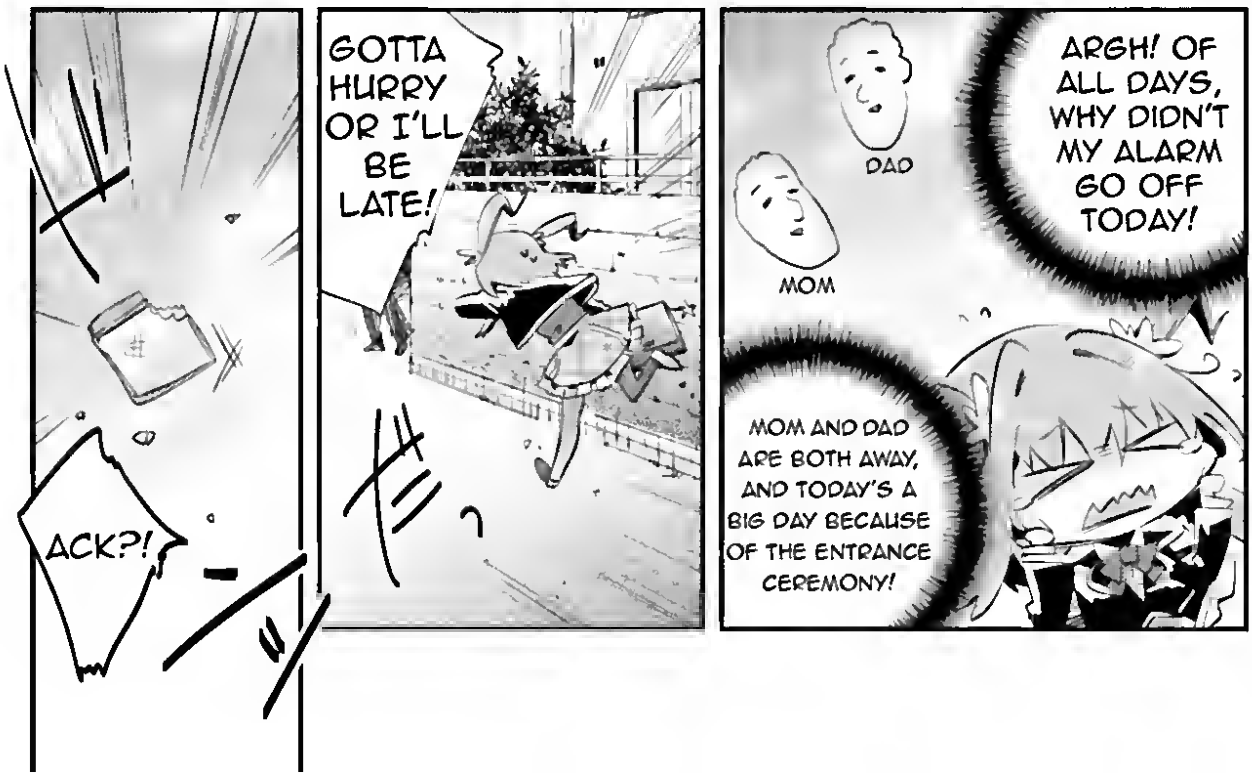
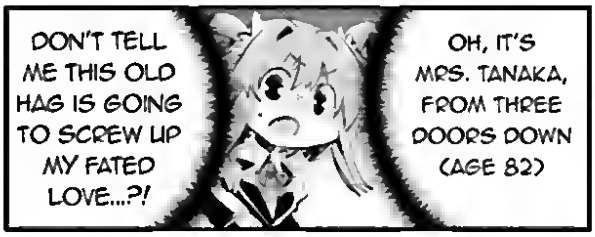
I'M LATE! I'M LATE!
MY NAME'S ASAHI HANAMURA! TODAY, I FINALLY BECOME A HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT! ONLY...
EPISODE 0: HIMURA


ACK?!
GOTTA HURRY OR I'LL BE LATE!
DAD
MOM
ARGH! OF ALL DAYS, WHY DIDN'T MY ALARM GO OFF TODAY!
MOM AND DAD ARE BOTH AWAY, AND TODAY'S A BIG DAY BECAUSE OF THE ENTRANCE CEREMONY!

THE GUY I JUST BUMPED INTO ENDS UP SITTING RIGHT NEXT TO ME, AND THEN WE HOOK UP...!
... WAIT, IS THIS LIKE THAT TROPE I ALWAYS SEE IN GIRLS' COMICS?

OUCH ...
COME ON, NOW WHAT?

GREETINGS, MY FATED...

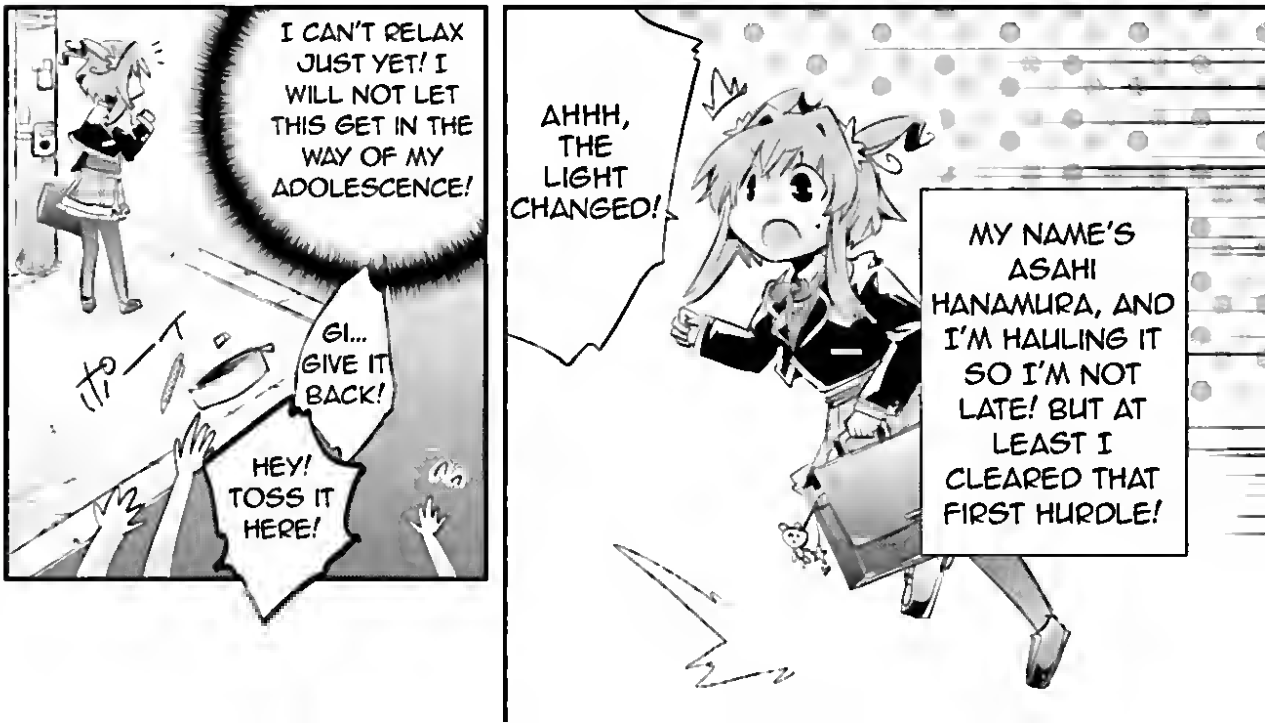

DON'T TELL ME THIS OLD HAG IS GOING TO SCREW UP MY FATED LOVE...?!
OH, IT'S MRS. TANAKA, FROM THREE DOORS DOWN (AGE 82)

UGH ... I THINK I HURT MY BACK... DO YOU THINK YOU COULD GIVE ME A HAND BACK TO MY HOUSE?
AH, I SHOULDN'T SAY SUCH TERRIBLE STUFF.
MRS. TANAKA! ARE YOU OK?!

MY... MY BACK...
UGH ...

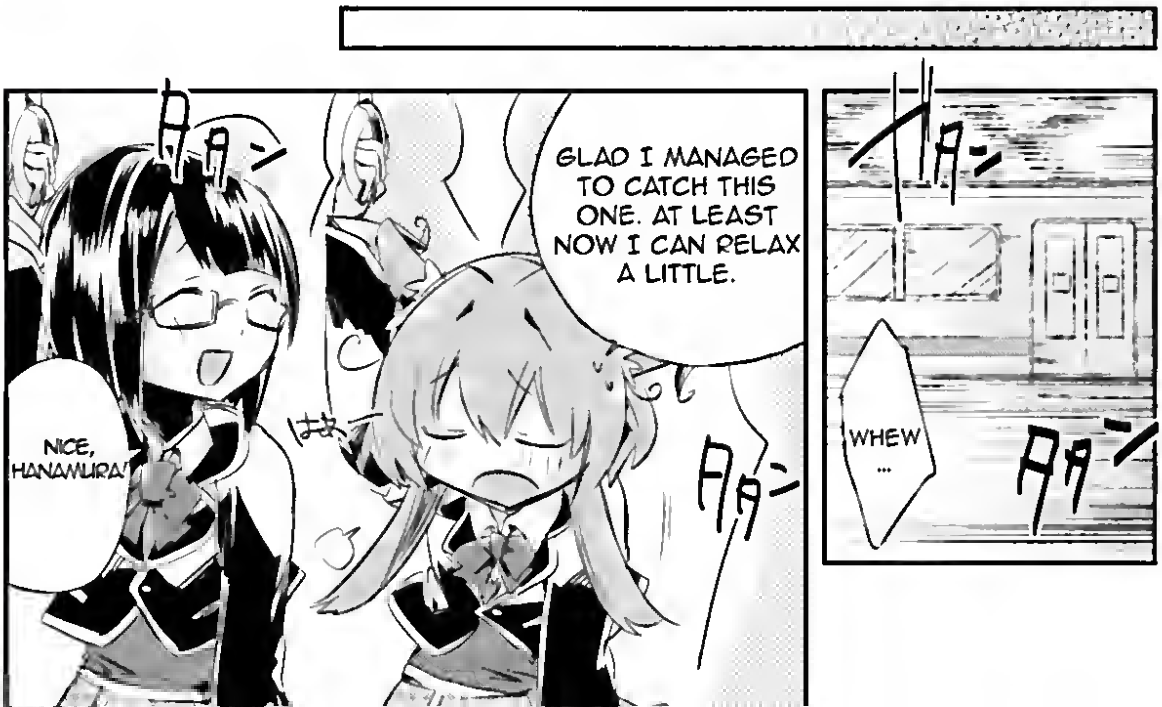
BUT IT WOULDN'T BE RIGHT FOR ME TO JUST LEAVE HER LIKE THIS!
OHHH WHAT SHOULD I DO?!
TODAY'S THE BEGINNING OF HIGH SCHOOL FOR ME, SO IT'S A REALLY IMPORTANT DAY!
YES, MA'AM! I JUST...
WAIT A SEC! IF I HELP MRS. TANAKA BACK TO HER PLACE, I'LL BE LATE TO THE ENTRANCE CEREMONY!
...! I'VE GOT IT!
QUICK, YOUR HAND...!
NEVER SAW MRS. TANAKA!
TODAY, I...
I MEAN, REALLY! SHE'S SUCH A SPAZ.
MRS. TANAKA WAS CARELESS, AND JUST FELL DOWN ON HER OWN!
WAIT
WHERE ARE YOU G...
THAT'S THE TICKET! THAT WAY NO ONE WILL BE ABLE TO BLAME ME!

FAREWELL, MRS. TANAKA!
A.. ASAHI! ERRRGH!


I CAN'T RELAX JUST YET! I WILL NOT LET THIS GET IN THE WAY OF MY ADOLESCENCE!
GI... GIVE IT BACK!
HEY! TOSS IT HERE!
AHHH, THE LIGHT CHANGED!
MY NAME'S ASAHI HANAMURA, AND I'M HAULING IT SO I'M NOT LATE! BUT AT LEAST I CLEARED THAT FIRST HURDLE!

IGNORE THEM! FOCUS!
UH OH
OOPS!
HA HA, STUPID!
C'MON, GIVE IT BACK!
I WONDER IF THOSE KIDS ARE OO ELEMENTARY STUDENTS...
!!
GIVE IT BACK!
MY PENCIL CASE...
ME?
AH! THE LIGHT CHANGED!
IF I TRY TO HELP THAT GIRL, I'M GOING TO HAVE TO TANGLE WITH THOSE BULLIES, AND THEN I'LL DEFINITELY BE LATE.
BUT IT JUST WOULDN'T BE RIGHT FOR ME TO ABANDON THE POOR GIRL...
OHHH WHAT SHOULD I DO?!
SO SHE AND I PROBABLY WOULD NEVER BE CLASSMATES... AND IF I'M NEVER GOING TO SEE HER AGAIN, I GUESS...
SHE LOOKS LIKE SHE'S PROBABLY IN FIRST OR SECOND GRADE.
?
?
NO! THAT WOULD JUST BE CRUEL! THE LIGHT'S GOING TO CHANGE AGAIN IF I JUST KEEP SITTING HERE THINKING!
RED MEANS STOP, AND GREEN MEANS GO... BUT WHAT IF IT'S FLASHING?

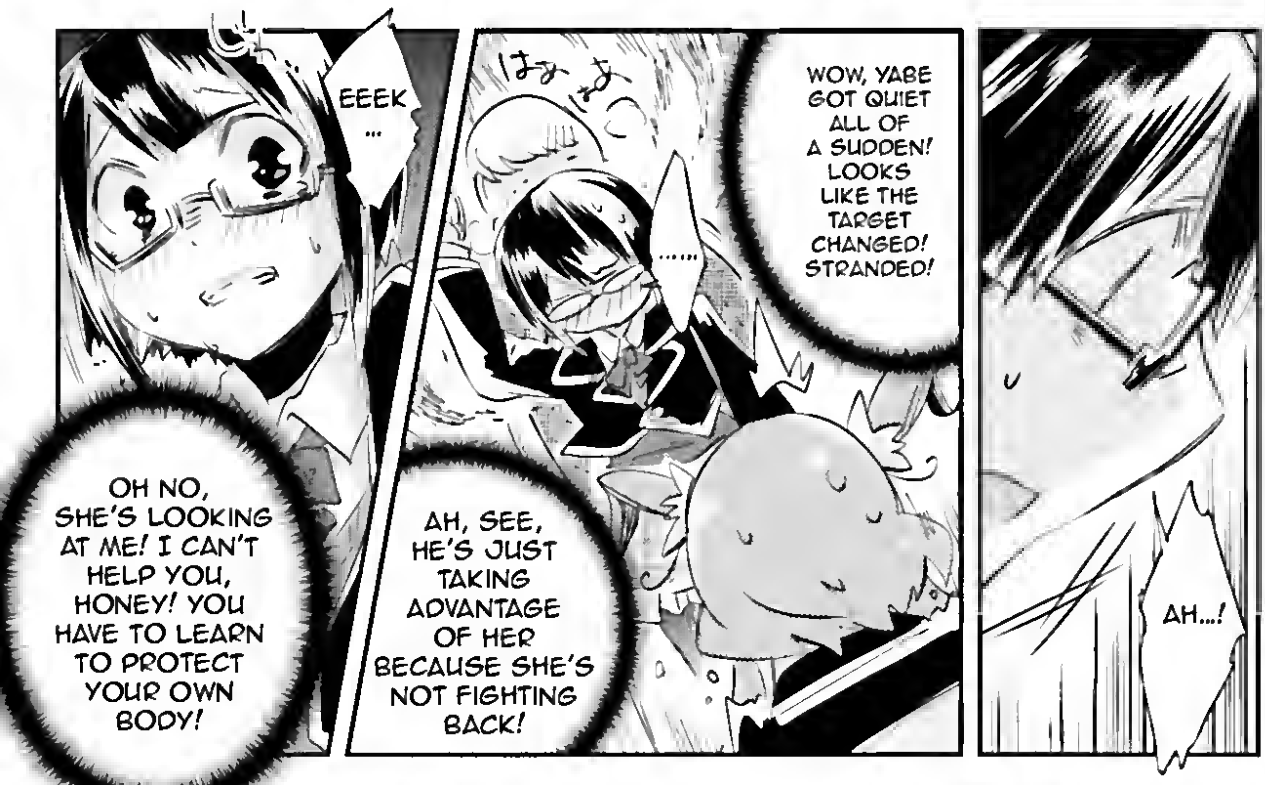
WHATEVER!!


WHEW...
GLAD I MANAGED TO CATCH THIS ONE. AT LEAST NOW I CAN RELAX A LITTLE.
NICE, HANAMURA!

IT'S A RELIEF SEEING SOMEONE FROM THE SAME JUNIOR HIGH
ME TOO, YABE! (BECAUSE YOU LET ME CHEAT OFF YOU ON THE ENTRANCE EXAM...)
!?
HANAMURA?
ACK! NO! WAY!
A MO... MOLESTER?!
WHAT DO I DO? WHY IS HE GROPING ME!
I ALWAYS THOUGHT OLDER GIRLS WOULD GET TARGETED FOR THIS...
I MEAN, REALLY! FOR THIS...
ARE YOU OKAY? DO YOU FEEL SICK?
!!
THE SEAT IN FRONT OF ME IS OPEN! HERE'S MY CHANCE TO ESCAPE...
LOOK! LOOK OVER THERE, YOU PERVERT!
JUST LOOK AT THE HOTNESS RIGHT NEXT TO ME!

NORMALLY I'M SHOULD LET HIM HAVE THE SEAT...
HE'S ELDERLY ...
AHHH BUT THIS IS AN EMERGENCY! I HAVE NO CHOICE!
NOBODY'S LOOKING...
SEAT FOR VICTOR
!!
ERGH ...
ARE YOU OK?!
SORRY, GRAMPS!
WHOA!
HANAMURA? HOW DID YOU...

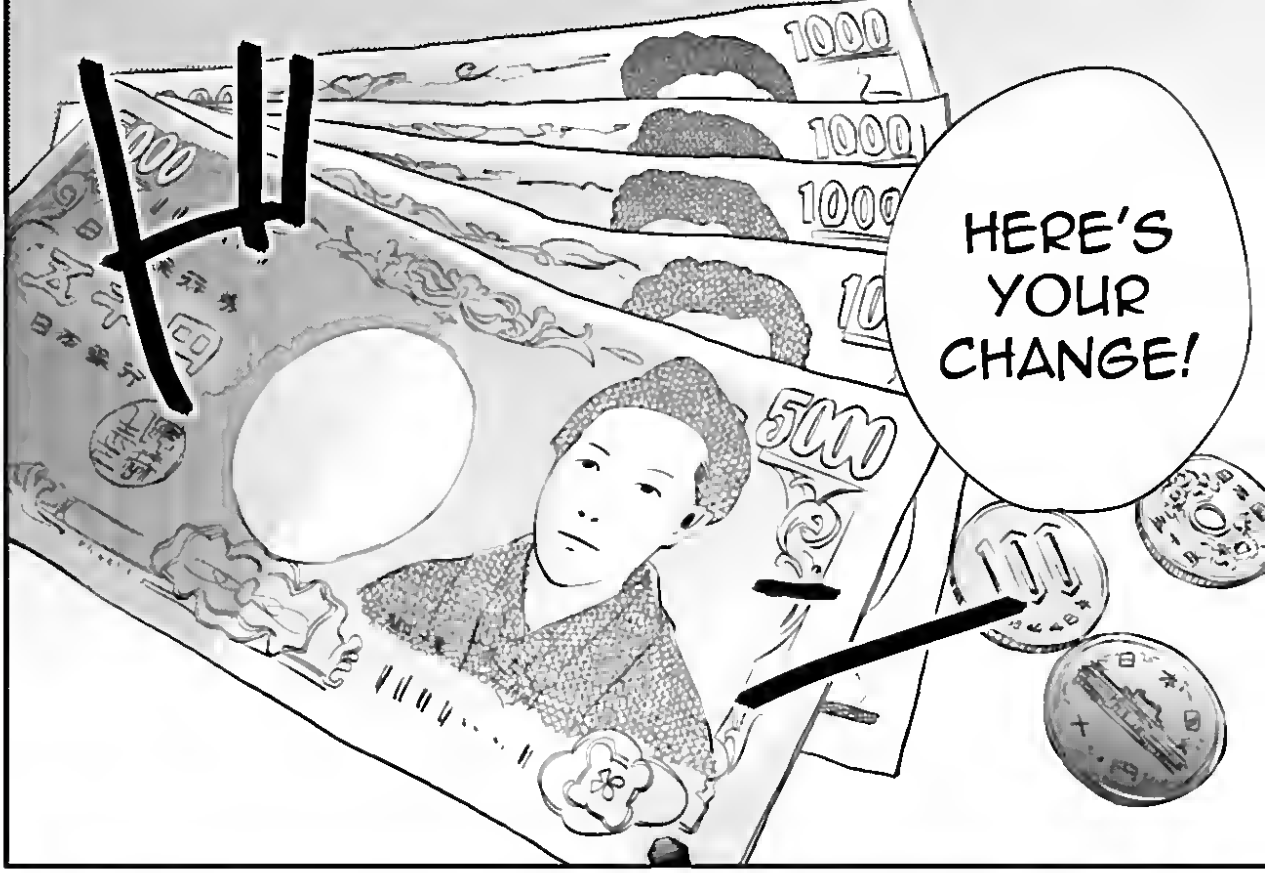
OH, THANK YA KINDLY!
PLEASE TAKE MY SEAT!
REALLY? YOU SHOULD HAVE TOLD ME, I WOULD HAVE LET YOU LEAN ON ME!
ZZZ
THAT WAS CLOSE! THAT OLD GUY ALMOST STOLE MY SEAT AND LEFT ME STRANDED!
I WAS HOPING I'D FEEL BETTER... OW! ... WONDER IF I CAN MAKE IT ALL THE WAY TO SCHOOL!
YEOW! OH, I SPRAINED SOMETHING SAVING A KITTEN BEFORE!


EEEK ...
OH NO, SHE'S LOOKING AT ME! I CAN'T HELP YOU, HONEY! YOU HAVE TO LEARN TO PROTECT YOUR OWN BODY!
はぁはぁ
.....
AH, SEE, HE'S JUST TAKING ADVANTAGE OF HER BECAUSE SHE'S NOT FIGHTING BACK!
WOW, YABE GOT QUIET ALL OF A SUDDEN! LOOKS LIKE THE TARGET CHANGED! STRANDED!
AH...!

UHH...
I FEEL BAD WAKING HER UP... WHAT SHOULD I DO?
SHE MUST BE BEAT AFTER SAVING THAT KITTEN...
WHAAA?! SHE FELL ASLEEP? THAT WAS FAST...
HAN... HANAMURA ...

Station
GET OUT! A MOLESTER?! THAT'S TERRIBLE! YOU SHOULD HAVE SAID SOMETHING, I WOULD HAVE TOLD HIM OFF!
THANKS, HANAMURA. BUT YOU DOZED OFF, SO I FELT BAD WAKING YOU UP...
STOP IT! YOU SHOULD HAVE WOKEN ME UP!
BUT I'LL END UP MAKING US BOTH LATE!
NO WORRIES! I CAN'T LEAVE AN INJURED FRIEND BEHIND.
ARE YOU SURE? I DON'T WANT YOU TO HURT YOURSELF EVEN WORSE
ANYWAY YABE, I SHOULD BE FINE ON MY OWN FROM HERE...
YOU NITWIT! JUST GO BY YOURSELF IF YOU'RE GOING TO BE LATE!
BUT TODAY'S THE ENTRANCE CEREMONY
I MANAGED TO GET ON THE TRAIN IN TIME! BUT THAT WON'T MEAN A THING IF THIS KEEPS UP...
I'M GONNA PUT YOU DOWN, OK?
OK...
WE ARE SO GOING TO BE LATE...
Famous Mart
AH, A CONVENIENCE STORE!
THEY MIGHT HAVE A HEATING PAD FOR YOU, HANAMURA! LET'S GO CHECK.
WHA?! UH, OK.

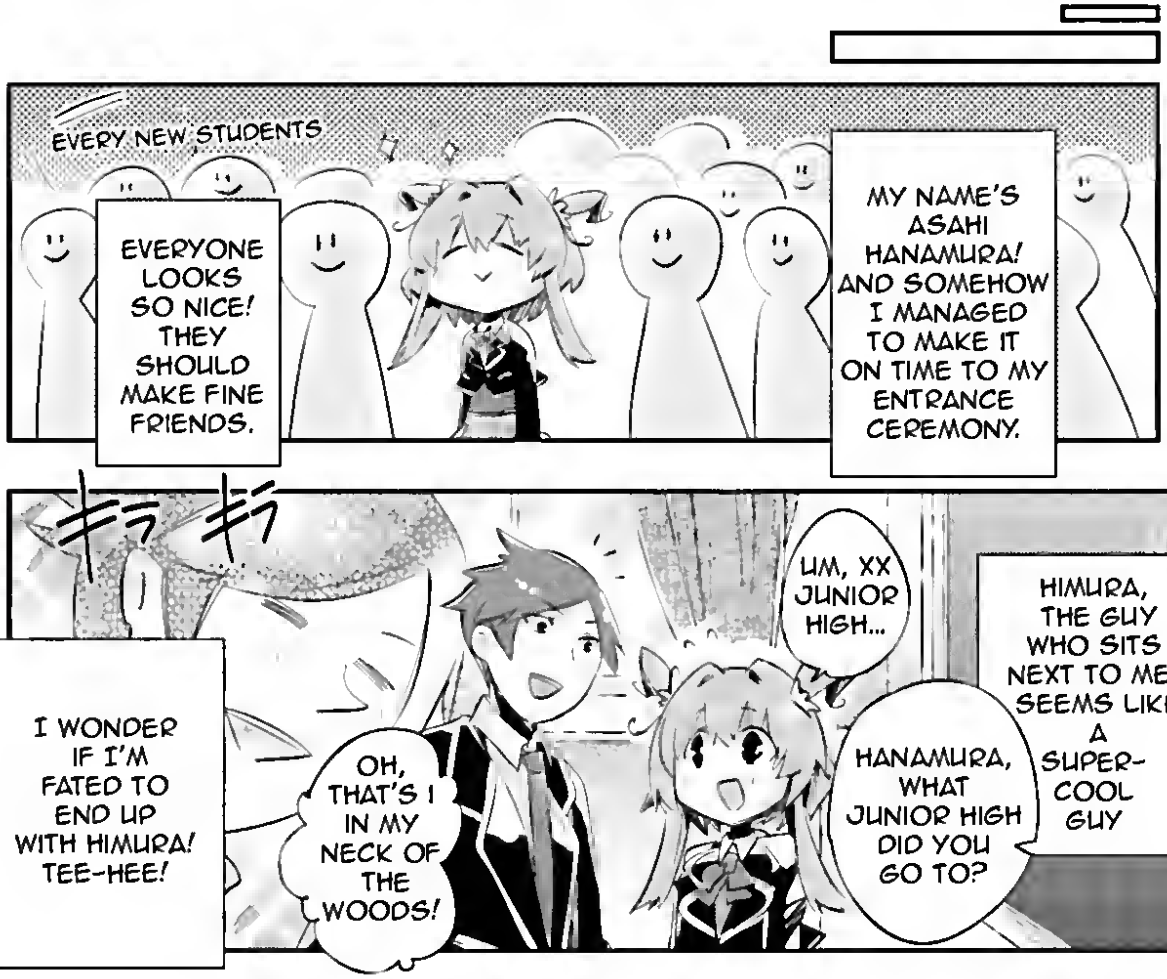
WHOA, THOSE HEATING PADS COST A FORTUNE!
AND I WAS SAVING MONEY FOR THAT CD THAT COMES OUT TOMORROW...
HANAMURA, I'M GOING TO THE BATHROOM, OKAY?
OKAY...
GUESS I HAVE NO CHOICE... I'VE GOT REALLY BAD LUCK TODAY...
I'LL TAKE THIS...
HM?!
HEY, ASAHI! LONG TIME NO SEE!
Famous Mart
IS THAT YOUR HIGH SCHOOL UNIFORM? YOU LOOK SO CUTE
OH, HEY. YOU WERE AHEAD OF ME IN SCHOOL, RIGHT? YOU WORK HERE?
WELL, YEAH, JUST PUTTING MYSELF THROUGH SCHOOL.
FAREWELL, MY PRECIOUS ICHIYOU...
A HEATING PAD? DID YOU HURT YOURSELF?
UH, LIKE... MY FRIEND, LIKE...
YOU HAVEN'T CHANGED ASAHI! ALWAYS THINKING OF YOUR FRIENDS
UH, YEAH
FRIENDS ARE SO IMPORTANT, YOU KNOW
SO MUCH FOR BUYING THE LIMITED EDITION...


HERE'S YOUR CHANGE!

STUDY HARD!
HAVE A GOOD DAY!
IT'S BEEN SUCH A ROUGH DAY ALREADY, SO I THINK I CAN GIVE MYSELF THIS ONE. AND THIS WAY I CAN BUY THAT CD!
A SCREW UP LIKE THIS, AND SHE'S GOING TO GET IN A LOT OF TROUBLE. AND SHE DID SAY SHE WAS PUTTING HERSELF THROUGH SCHOOL, SO I FEEL BAD...
HM? YOU OKAY?
UH, I...
9160 YEN... I PAID WITH A 5000 YEN BILL, BUT SHE THINKS I PAID WITH A 10000
FamousMart

I'M GLAD I GOT OUT OF THERE IN A HURRY, BUT YABE'S STILL IN THE BATHROOM
I CAN'T BELIEVE MY ADOLESCENCE IS BEGINNING WITH A SPRINT...
HM?
TAXI
EVEN IF I RUN I WON'T GET THERE ON TIME, BUT WITH A CAR, THERE'S STILL A CHANCE!
IT'S A TAXI! AND IT'S VACANT! IT'S A MIRACLE!
ARGH, YABE'S STILL IN THE BATHROOM...
WHERE YA HEADED?
UM...
HEY! TAXI!
I'VE NEVER BEEN IN A TAXI WITHOUT MY PARENTS...
BUT WITH TODAY'S FINANCIAL WINDFALL, I'LL EVEN HAVE CHANGE LEFTOVER!

OO HIGH SCHOOL, PLEASE!
WELL, WE'RE NOT VERY GOOD FRIENDS ANYWAY!
MIGHT AS WELL!


EVERY NEW STUDENTS
EVERYONE LOOKS SO NICE! THEY SHOULD MAKE FINE FRIENDS.
MY NAME'S ASAHI HANAMURA! AND SOMEHOW I MANAGED TO MAKE IT ON TIME TO MY ENTRANCE CEREMONY.
キラキラ
I WONDER IF I'M FATED TO END UP WITH HIMURA! TEE-HEE!
OH, THAT'S 1 IN MY NECK OF THE WOODS!
UM, XX JUNIOR HIGH...
HANAMURA, WHAT JUNIOR HIGH DID YOU GO TO?
HIMURA, THE GUY WHO SITS NEXT TO ME, SEEMS LIKE A SUPER-COOL GUY

SO HIMURA, SINCE WE LIVE SO CLOSE, LET'S WALK HOME TOGETHER!
!!
SOUNDS GOOD! BUT ACTUALLY MY FAMILY'S WAITING OUTSIDE...
HEY! MOM!
AH, THERE SHE IS.
COME ON, YOU SHOULD SAY HELLO, TOO!
OOPS! THE GIRL WHO WAS GETTING BULLIED THIS MORNING WAS HIMURA'S LITTLE SISTER...
THAT'S THE SAME GIRL I PICKED UP THIS MORNING!
TAXI
WHO'S THIS? A GIRLFRIEND ALREADY?
ER, NO! SHE'S NOT... UM...
WELL, THIS IS AWKWARD
YEAH
I... NEED TO GO TO THE BATHROOM ...
REALLY?
THE BATH ROOM?
WELL, THERE'S A CONVENIENCE STORE RIGHT HERE! LET'S MAKE A PIT STOP.
FamousMart
SERIOUSLY?! OF ALL THE CONVENIENCE STORES IN THE WORLD...

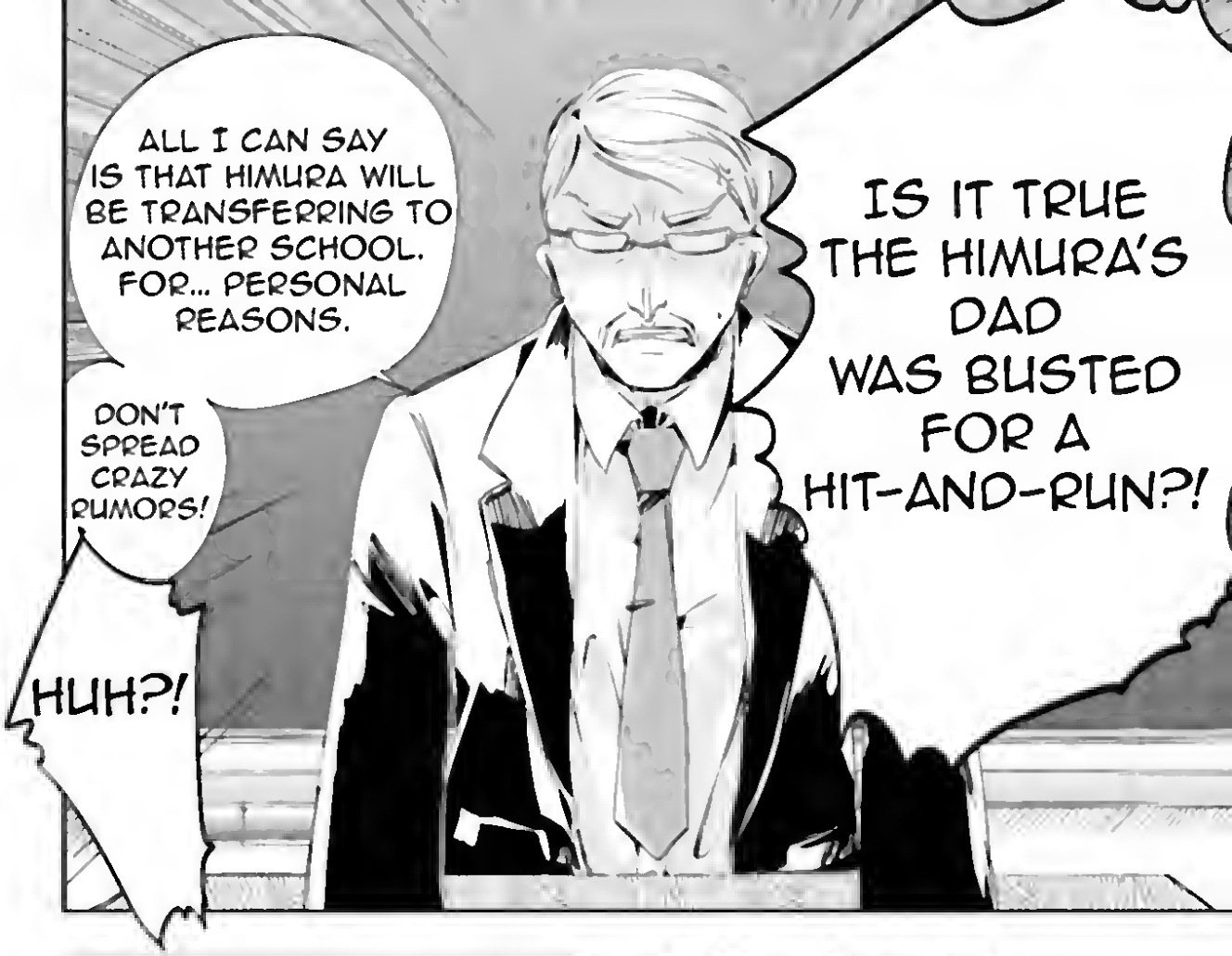
HELLO THERE...
Farout Mart
ARE YOU... OKAY?!
HEY, UM, THAT THING BEFORE...
I HEAR SOME STORES MAKE YOU PAY OUT OF YOUR OWN POCKET FOR THAT KIND OF THING...
A... ASAHI!
YIKES! SHE MUST HAVE GOTTEN IN REAL TROUBLE...
ACK!!
I'M NOT SURE, BUT I THINK I'M IN THE CLEAR...
OH, FINE!! JUST FINE!!
GLAD TO HEAR IT. I'M, UH, JUST GOING TO USE YOUR BATH ROOM!!
EHH HH H !!!!
I SHOULDN'T BE SUSPICIOUS OF MY FRIENDS! IT'S MY OWN FAULT I WAS CARELESS! MY FAULT!
CELLOPHANE TAPE

KYAAAAAAAAAAAAAAA!!!!!!!
LADIES' ROOM
YABE! YOU'RE STILL IN HERE?!
HA... HANAMURA! I'M SO HAPPY YOU MADE IT TO THE ENTRANCE CEREMONY BEFORE...
WHA...?
ERGH...
I HAVEN'T CHECKED MY PHONE!
OH, YOU DON'T SAY...
SO I WAS GOING TO TEXT YOU, BUT THEN MY PHONE'S BATTERY DIED...
ALL OF A SUDDEN MY STOMACH STARTED TO HURT...
ARE YOU ALRIGHT? SHOULD I CALL AN AMBULANCE?
YES, PLEASE! YOU'RE SO GOOD TO ME, HANAMURA...
ピポピポ
IS YOUR FRIEND OK? SHE LOOKED PRETTY BAD
THANKS FOR YOUR HELP WITH THAT!
DON'T WORRY ABOUT IT! ANYONE ELSE WOULD HAVE DONE THE SAME.
IF YOU TURN AT THE CORNER UP THERE AND THEN GO STRAIGHT, YOU'LL GET TO MY HOUSE
ROGER!
WHEW, I CAN FINALLY GO HOME...

ガタン
TAXI
TAXI
ゴゴゴ
ゴレヤ
TAXI
I'LL GO HAVE A LOO...
NO, DON'T!
I DON'T THINK I CAN HANDLE THAT SORT OF TRAUMA RIGHT NOW...!
... DID WE JUST RUN OVER SOMETHING?
.....

S..SORRY!
GRABBING YOUR HANDS LIKE THAT..
OOPS...
UH, NO...
THAT'S TOTALLY OKAY...
WHOA, WHY IS MY HEART POUNDING?

I HOPE THE NEXT THREE YEARS...
WILL BRING US... CLOSER.
HM... HANAMURA...
THANKS FOR TAKING ME HOME. SEE YOU SOON, HIMURA!
YEAH, CATCH YOU TOMORROW!
THEY SEEM TO HAVE REALLY HIT IT OFF
IT'S SO CUTE!


ALL I CAN SAY IS THAT HIMURA WILL BE TRANSFERRING TO ANOTHER SCHOOL. FOR... PERSONAL REASONS.
IS IT TRUE THE HIMURA'S DAD WAS BUSTED FOR A HIT-AND-RUN?!
DON'T SPREAD CRAZY RUMORS!
HUH?!

IT WASN'T HIMURA'S FAULT, OR HIS FATHER'S FAULT...
YEAH, BUT THAT CAN'T BE HELPED
YOU SEEMED TO BE GETTING ALONG SO WELL WITH HIM, TOO!
HANAMURA, THAT'S TOO BAD!

HANAMURA
SO LET'S CHANGE THE SUBJECT, OKAY?

IT WAS JUST AN UNFORTUNATE ACCIDENT...
IT WAS NO ONE'S FAULT, REALLY.